



Missions for
America

Semper vigilans!

Semper volans!

Publication of the Thames River Composite
Squadron
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Civil Air Patrol

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03 March, 2020

SQUADRON CALENDAR

07 MAR-TRCS Rocket Building Clinic

10 MAR-TSRCS Commander's Call

14 MAR-CTWG Rifle

14 MAR or 21 MAR-First Aid Course

MAR 14-15-Unit Commander's Course

17 MAR-TRCS Meeting

21 MAR-CTWG Rifle

24 MAR-TRCS Meeting

28 or 29 MAR-Water Survival Training

07 APR-TRCS Staff Meeting

14 APR-TRCS Commander's Call

16-18 APR-NER/CTWG Conference

21 APR-TRCS Meeting

28 APR-TRCS Meeting

16 MAY-Commander's Cup Rocket Contest

CADET MEETING

03 March, 2020

The meeting centered on sets of leadership activities run by the senior cadet cadre.

SENIOR MEETING

03 March, 2020

Staff Meeting

A poll of attendees for the upcoming conference, water survival course and training exercise was taken.

Department heads reported on the status of their responsibilities. Reports were positive. Lt Col Doucette reports that finances are healthy, Lt Kopycienski continues intermediate communications user training. IT Officer, Lt Pineau reports that the computer upgrading is proceeding but a new program must be rented to maximize effectiveness. Officers requiring recertification were notified by Capt Johnson and orientation flights were scheduled to assure that our five new cadets get their first ride within 90 days of joining.

TRAINING AND KUDOS

Over the weekend, Capt Johnson qualified as an airborne photographer under the supervision of Major Farley.

Maj Neilson renewed his Form91, the annual pilot review. Major Noniewicz was the mission pilot.

In the annual review of high frequency communications, CAP's National Net Control announced that Lt Kopycienski, Charter Oak 42, was one of the top ten participants last year.

THAMES RIVER ROCKET TEAM

Leap Day and the TRCS rocketeers assembled for the first weekend of preparation for the Commander's Cup Rocket Competition. In the 12 years of competition, Thames River has won the Cup seven times and tied once.



(Photo Credit: Lt. Ceniglio)

Cadets building Level One class rockets are C/SSgts SSgt Noah Bosse and Olivia Busher, C/A1C A1C Steven Buchko and Maria Ceniglio and C/Amn David Motherway.

The Advanced Rocket section consists of C/CMSgt Cameron Wischman, C/SMSgt Elizabeth Burton, and C/SSgt Michael Jeznach.

Major Roy Bourque leads the team assisted by 1st Lts Tom Ceniglio and Michael Kopycienski and Mr. Buchko 1st Lt Michael Kopycienski and Mr Buchko

VOLUNTEERS AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Fifteen members of TRCS headed for Pratt & Whitney on Sunday, the 23rd to assist in the running of the annual Connecticut Special Olympics. They were assigned to setting up and serving lunch to the athletes.



Food service at the Elks, 11090th and Special Olympics! These suggest that we refer to the last line of John Milton's sonnet sometimes titled "When I consider how my light is spent."

They also serve who only stand and wait.

*Sonnet 19
John Milton*



Participating cadets were DeVeau, Motherway, Bury, Trotochaud, Rathbone, Alexander, Olivia Busher, Burton, Dibler, Jeznach, Wischman and Schaffer. Lt Michael Kopycienski and Lt Jennifer Thornell served as advisors. Team leader was SM David Rathbone.

LEGISLATIVE DAY AT SODOM ON THE POTOMAC

Seventeen members of CTWG, led by Col James Ridley, Wing Commander, traveled to Washington LST week to participate in CAP'S annual Legislative Day. Lt Jennifer Thornell and C/1st Lt Rhys Thornell. Their first stop was Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The next day they visited the Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial and the White House. Afterwards, the delegation visited the Congressional offices and met with two Connecticut representatives, Congressman Joseph Courtney and Congresswoman Jahana Hayes. A visit to the Capitol followed.

Delegation



Cadets at the Lincoln Memorial (Photo Credit: Lt J. Thornell)

Before returning home, the group went to Dulles

Airport and spent time at the Udvar-Hazy Annex of the National Air and Space Museum.

Mar. 5, 1942 – The first Civil Air Patrol anti-submarine sortie is launched from Coastal Patrol Base 2, Rehoboth, Delaware.

AEROSPACE CHRONOLOGY

Mar. 4, 1945 – *Dina Might*, a B-29 returning from Japan and low on fuel lands at Motoyama Airfield No. 1., Iwo Jima. It is the first of about 2,400 Superforts to do so before the war ends.



Dina Might and a Stinson OY-1 Sentinel

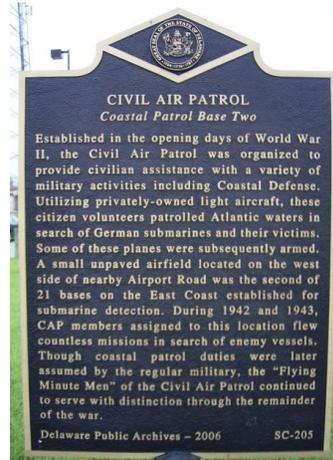


Iwo Jima was captured to provide an emergency landing field for B-29s which because of damage of low fuel could not make it back to their home base in the Marianas. It also provided a forward base for P-51 escort fighters. It is estimated that 24,000 aircrew found refuge on Iwo.



B-29 circling Mount Suribachi

The cost was 27,000 American casualties, 7,000 mortal. Half of the 24 Medals of Honor won by U.S. Marines in World War II were won in this one battle. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, stated that on Iwo Jima “uncommon valor was a common virtue.”



Delaware historic plaque, a Blue Hen Chicken from CPB #3 attacking a U-boat and their Sikorsky S-39 at the New England Air Museum

On this same date, a year later, the first United States antisubmarine hunter-killer group consisting of the escort carrier *USS Bogue* with Composite Squadron 9 aboard and accompanying escort vessels begins combat operations.



USS Bogue and a Grumman TBF-1 attack and sink U-569. Note the falling bomb on the port side of the sub.

(Credit: US Navy and James O. Stine, ARM 2/c radioman)

Mar. 6, 1951 – Martin Aircraft enters into negotiations to license the English Electric Canberra as the B-57A. The aircraft were similar

to the British B.2 but used license built Armstrong-Siddeley Sapphire engines, produced by Wright as the J65.



The Martin design also installed wing-tip fuel tanks and rotating bomb bay doors adopted from its ill-fated XB-51 which had been the Canberra's competitor in the contract competition to replace the Douglas A-26 Invader.



The replaced Invader and the XB-51 which failed to win the contract.



Over the course of its career, the Canberra performed tactical bombing, photo and weather reconnaissance missions and electronic counter-measurement missions.



B-57C, Tactical Bomber, Vermont Air National Guard

RB-57A reconnaissance aircraft at Wings of Eagles, Horsehead, N.Y



EB-57B of Vermont National Air Guard at March AFB, Riverside, California

And the amazing story of RB-57F 63-13295 which was retired to the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center (AMARG), "Boneyard," in June of 1972 and in August of 2013 after 39 years in storage, emerged from its cocoon and was refurbished by NASA as N927NA



On "Celebrity Row," at AMRAG displaying two Pratt J-60 auxiliary turbojet under the wings.

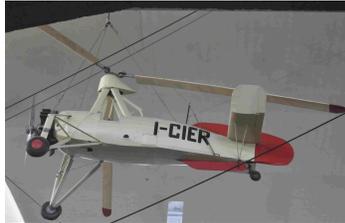


927NA now based at Ellington Field near Houston, Texas and used for high-altitude research at a WB-57F.

Mar. 7, 1934 – Inventor Juan de la Cierva lands a C.30 autogyro on the Spanish Navy seaplane tender Dédalo. It is the first time an autogyro lands on a Spanish ship.



An Italian registered C.30 at the Museo Della Scienza E Della Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci, Milan



Mar 8, 1910 – Raymonde de Laroche becomes the first woman to earn a pilot certificate when she is issued #36 by the Aero Club of France. She was killed in 1919 in a crash, part of her training to become an experimental test pilot.



Mar. 9-10, 1945—Operation Meetinghouse-General Curtis LeMay dispatches 334 B-29 Super Fortresses of the 20th Air Force to Tokyo. The aircraft are stripped of most of their defensive armament and gunners and loaded primarily with incendiary bombs.

The night raid is carried out at medium altitude to avoid jet stream winds and prevent dispersion of the bombs. Each bomb load consisted of around 40 cluster bombs containing 38-40 M69 bomblets. 1,666 tons of bombs are dropped, an estimated 100,000 Japanese are killed and ¼ million buildings are burned. An area approximately the size of Hartford, Connecticut was destroyed.



Claude Moore-Brabazon is issued pilot certificate #1 by the Royal Aero Club. Brabazon has a long career in aviation, WWI developing aerial photography, WWII Ministers of Transport and Aircraft production and post-war planner of civil aviation.



Mar. 10, 1948 – Herbert Henry Hoover, a test pilot for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics becomes the first civilian to exceed the speed of sound when he flies the No. 2 Bell XS-1 to a speed of 703 mph (Mach 1.065).



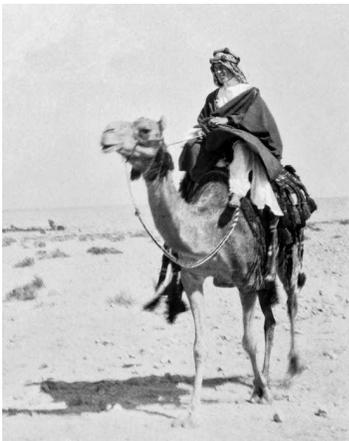
Test pilots Bob Champine and Herb Hoover in front of the XS-1.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT REHOBOTH BEACH

Since this is the week marking CAP's first anti-sub patrol, it might be illuminating to take a look at how the air and ground crews might relax when "feet are dry" and they are back on land. A classic piece of aviation advice is "Never drink within 50 feet of an airplane or smoke 12 hours before a flight" or something like that.

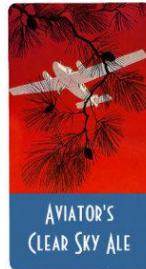
So as the shades of night fall, the crews repair to the mess and eat, drink, smoke, and hangar fly. The first order of business is the "decompression stage" although the CAP sub spotters never did get high enough to need pressurization.

Snoopy flies a camel and Lawrence of Arabia rides one but in WWII CAP smoked them.



Smoke 'em if you got 'em!

Then, time to have a tippie of "deicer fluid" and down a "cold one" or a "touch of the creature."



Those were the days!

*John Curry built a fighting corps
That sang a fighting song
About the wild blue yonder
And the days when men were strong
But now we're regulated cause we don't know
right from wrong
CAP is shot to hell!*